GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2807
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002
MEMO SUBMITTED TO GOVERNMENT BY LAWYERS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY;MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT;RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether eight lakh lawyers all over the country went on hunger strike, fast, dharna on November 8, 2002 following a resolution passed by Supreme Court Bar Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have submitted a memorandum to the Government and other authorities to amend `Legal Authorities Act`, for Lok Adalats and other demands;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) the outcome thereof; and

(g) the number of demands accepted, those rejected and under consideration of the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANAKRISHNAMURTHI)

(a)&(b) Lawyers are reported to have gone on hunger strike, fast, dharna to press for recall of the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002

(c) & (d) In their memorandum submitted to the Government the lawyers have opposed the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002 claiming that it is anti-litigant.

(e) (f) & (g) The Supreme Court of India has by its order dated 28.10.2002 in S.N. Pandey Vs. Union of India, upheld the constitutional validity of the aforesaid Act. The Supreme Court of India has inter-alia stated that the Act ensures that justice will be available to the litigant speedily and impartially. In view of this, there is no proposal to amend or recall the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002.